

Literary Analysis

SHAKESPEAREAN TRAGEDY: TRAGIC HERO

In a Shakespearean tragedy, the main character is a royal **tragic hero** who fails due to human error or weakness. This **tragic flaw** leads the hero to ruin, but it is often assisted by **antagonists**, characters who oppose the hero. Action climaxes in a **catastrophe**, a dreadful ending where many characters die.

Directions: Use the chart to record the characteristics of tragedy in *Macbeth*. Then answer the question that follows.

<div>Tragic Hero</div>	<div>Tragic Flaw</div>
<div>Tragedy</div>	
<div>Antagonists</div>	<div>Catastrophe</div>

In what ways could Macbeth be considered a tragic hero rather than a villain?